

*Q2* any one of claims 1 to 4 [or a vector according to claim 5 or 6].

*Q3* 9. (Amended) A protein encoded by a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 [or obtainable by the method of claim 8].

*Spec 7* 12. (Amended) A diagnostic composition containing a nucleic acid molecule according to any one of claim 1 to 4, [a vector according to claim 5 or 6,] a protein according to claim 9, an antibody according to claim 10 and/or a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 11.

*Q4* 13. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a nucleic acid molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 4, [a vector according to claim 5 or 6,] a protein according to claim 9, an antibody according to claim 10 and/or a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 11 and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Amended) A method for preparing a transgenic non-human animal, wherein a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 [or a vector according to claim 5 or 6] is inserted into a germ cell, an embryonic cell, an egg cell, or a cell derived therefrom, and a transgenic animal is produced from the thus transformed cell.

15. (Amended) A transgenic, non-human animal which is transformed with a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 [or a vector according to claim 5 or 6 or which is obtainable by a method according to claim 14].

Please add the following claims:

--20. A host cell transformed by a vector according to claim 5.--

--21. A host cell transformed by a vector according to claim 6.--

*Q5* --22. A protein obtainable by the method of claim 8.--

--23. A diagnostic composition containing a vector according to claim 5.--

--24. A diagnostic composition containing a vector according to claim 6.--

--25. A pharmaceutical composition containing a vector according to claim 5--.